

## Selections from the Principles of Philosophy by René Descartes

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Principles of Philosophy, originally published in Latin in 1644 and translated into French in 1647, sets forth the principles of nature as Descartes understood them. The book provides a systematic statement of natural philosophy and metaphysics, and represents the first truly comprehensive, mechanistic account of the universe. The selections here rendered into English by John Veitch include the whole of the first part of the book ("Of the Principles of Human Knowledge"), as well as selections from the second ("Of the Principles of Material Things"), third ("Of the Visible World"), and fourth ("Of the Earth").

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